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October 14, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski

Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

RE: Broadband Industry Practices (WC Docket No. 07-52)

Sutherland

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I find the FCC's intentions to further regulate Internet service providers to be concerning. My position as Executive Director of the Southeast Missouri Economic Development Alliance affords me the opportunity to see just how important an open and free Internet is for future job creation and innovation.

The newest technology is essential for economic growth. Both rural and urban areas benefit greatly from the increased efficiencies and innovations provided by strong and reliable networks. Innovation is encouraged when the companies who provide Internet service are given the incentive to invest. Additional regulation is a disincentive for economic growth.

This is a classic case of trying to fix what isn't broken. I'd ask that you please consider changing the Commission's focus to concentrate on expanding our country's broadband network so that we can work together to drive innovation and investment in our country's future.

Sincerely.